

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/575,342

Applicant(s)

RAPAKKO ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Tuan A. Vu

2193

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's reponse per 4/30/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

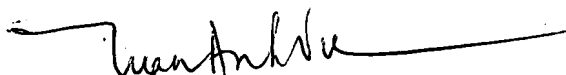
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 5/27/07.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application filed 4/30/07.

Claims 1-31 have been resubmitted and pending examination.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Geza Ziegler, Reg. # 44004 on 5/25/07.

4. The application has been amended as follows.

CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended in accordance to the herein attached copy of the fax Amendments provided by the Applicant, entitled 'Amendment', dated 5/26/07.

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. Claims 1-31 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art taken separately or jointly does not suggest or teach the following features.

A method or computer medium storing instructions to implement the method, the method to load and start user interface software (UIS) of an expansion card coupled in a releasable manner to a electronic device, (i) the user interface software comprising a basic module (BM)

Art Unit: 2193

and a user interface module (UIM); the method comprising storing the stored basic module (BM) and the user interface module (UIM) in a memory storage of the electronic device prior to the loading/starting of the user interface software (UIS); loading of the UIS in two phases, wherein (ii) the first phase comprises starting the previously stored BM, said started BM setting up communication signaling between the user interface layer and the device drivers of the electronic device, wherein the setting includes initialization of parameters necessary for the expansion card and generating of error messages when operating system incompatibilities issues are detected; and wherein (iii) the second phase comprises using the setting by the started BM, loading the previously stored UIM when the expansion card is coupled and detected by a detecting element; and wherein the started UIM is utilized to control the function of the expansion card; as recited in claims 1, 7, 14, 15, 21, 28.

Shih, USPN: 6,405,362, teaches loading of an expansion card software onto the device upon the card being coupled to the device by means of the device pertinent event-monitoring module previously started on the device to monitor any card coupling event; however the loading software by Shih fails to teach or suggest prestoring the very 2 modules pertinent to the UI software to be loaded, i.e. separate modules being a BM and a UIM stored in a memory of the device prior to any starting of the UIS as in (i); such that the BM is started prior to the attachment of the expansion card to set up the parameters/layers of the expansion card or device as recited in (ii); and using the setting of the BM to detect and load the UIM previously stored on the device upon detecting the expansion card coupling, and using the UIM to control the function of the expansion card as recited in (iii), hence not loading software from the expansion card.

Art Unit: 2193

Garney, USPN: 5,319,751, discloses 2 components of a software on a coupling card, and upon the card being coupled, using the device setting by the first component of this coupled card to execute and install the second component thereof while this component is still stored in the coupling card, but does not teach or suggest the prestorage of the BM and the UIM as in (i); the setting of parameters of the started BM prior to the expansion card coupling as in (ii) and using the setting of the BM in the second phase to start the prestored UIM to operate the expansion card as this card is coupled to the device, as in (iii).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan A Vu whose telephone number is (272) 272-3735. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30PM/Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571)272-3756.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-3735 (for non-official correspondence - please consult Examiner before using) or 571-273-8300 (for official correspondence) or redirected to customer service at 571-272-3609.

Art Unit: 2193

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Tuan A Vu
Patent Examiner,
Art Unit 2193
May 27, 2007